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THE BERNSTEIN PROVERB LIBRARY. Through attendance, in 1865, at a lecture on the wisdom of proverbs and their ethical and racial significance, Ignatius Bernstein, a rich citizen of Warsaw, was led to the idea of collecting a library of the proverbs of all ages and peoples, — books and manuscripts, independent works and articles from periodicals. Wealth enabling him to search and choose from all quarters of the globe, the library, after 35 years of industrious collection, is unique in the world. It contains 4761 separate items from more than 150 languages of civilized and uncivilized races and peoples, of which 70 are MS. A sumptuous catalogue of the Bernstein collection was published at Warsaw in two volumes in 1900. A copy has not yet reached the editor of the Journal, so this note is necessarily incomplete.

TOY EXHIBITION AT PARIS. Late in the summer of 1901 the Parisian prefect of police, M. Lépine, suggested to the makers of cheap toys, New Year's presents, etc., that they try to invent some new and original toys. The idea took, and a prize exhibition was instituted, in which 160 exhibitors shared. The exhibit was formally opened in the large hall of the Tribunal of Commerce in November, and the toys offered for competition numbered many hundreds. The value of the toys exhibited ranged from 5 centimes to fr. 2.95, the maximum price fixed by the authorities. Among the more interesting specimens were : a map that could be taken to pieces ("la terre en morceaux"); a Boer-English toy in which the Boer kicks the Briton; a whole collection of "Santos," or toy air-ships, some of which, by an ingenious device, circle round the Eiffel tower; a donkey that, when a bit of sugar is put into its mouth and the bridle pulled, returns it as a bonbon, — a new "nickel-in-the-slot" machine; a harp with flute attachment; an "alcoholic;" automobiles for from fr. 1.43 to fr. 1.95, the last being "elephant;" self-moving boats for two sous (run by chemical reaction), etc. M. Léo Claretie, one of the jury of awards, was very enthusiastic over the success of the affair, which proved abundantly that the old ingenuity of the Parisians was still alive, and that the toy-maker's funeral was not yet to be. As a result of the exhibition a toy-museum will probably be inaugurated. These few notes are taken from a brief account by Marie-Louise Néron in "*Volkskunde*" (vol. xiv., 1901-02, pp. 205-207).

A. F. C.

WELSH SUPERSTITIONS. Although not more superstitious or less intelligent than any other class of Americans, it seems to be a fact that those of Welsh descent possess a greater stock of "sayings" of one kind or another, and of folk-lore traditions and beliefs, than those of most other nationalities. Two superstitions that I have found to be nearly universal among Welsh Americans seem to me to be worthy of record.

One of these belongs to that large class of weather-wise observations, and is based on simple belief in an overruling Providence that permits not even a sparrow to fall unobserved.

The belief or superstition was first brought to my notice a number of